(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 27 October 2005 (27.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/099845 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: A63F 13/00, 9/24, G06F 17/00, 19/00

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2005/009181

(22) International Filing Date: 18 March 2005 (18.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(**30**) Priority Data: 60/558,222

31 March 2004 (31.03.2004) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): WMS GAMING INC. [US/US]; 800 S. Northpoint Boulevard, Waukegan, IL 60085 (US).

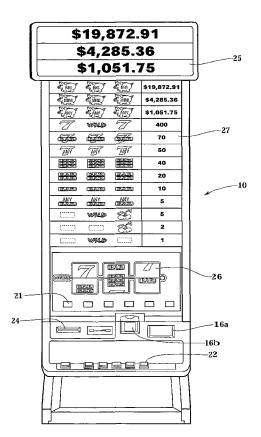
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): THOMAS, Alfred

[US/US]; 4920 N. Oak Park Avenue, Chicago, IL 60656 (US).

- (74) Agents: BURNHAM, Daniel, J. et al.; Jenkens & Gilchrist, a Professional Corporation, 225 W. Washington Street, Suite 2600, Chicago, IL 60606-3418 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYMBOL DRIVEN CONTRIBUTIONS FOR A PRIZE POOL IN A WAGERING GAME



(57) Abstract: A gaming terminal and a method for playing a wagering game on the gaming terminal. The gaming terminal is one of a plurality of gaming terminals and the wagering game has a prize pool. The method includes conducting a basic game having a randomly selected outcome. A player is awarded a payout amount if the randomly selected outcome is one of a plurality of winning outcomes. Also, the amount of the prize pool is increased if the randomly selected outcome is a prize-pool increasing outcome. In one embodiment, the only payout amounts available at the gaming terminal are from the bonus pool that is funded by the prize-pool increasing outcome.

WO 2005/099845 A1



European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

with international search report

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.